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TO

Regulate the Sale of Firearms in Scotland and Ireland. A.D. 1910.

WHEREAS it is unlawful to sell or exchange or otherwise deal in unproved small arms in England:

And whereas it is expedient that similar provisions should be made applicable to Scotland and Ireland:

5 Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. A small arm shall not be sold or exchanged or be attempted to be sold or exchanged, or be exposed or kept for sale or exchange in Scotland or Ireland, or be exported or be attempted to be exported, or be kept for exportation from Scotland or Ireland, unless and until the barrel or every barrel thereof has been duly proved at a public proof house or branch 15 proof house established by law in the United Kingdom and duly marked as proved:

Provided that every person importing into Scotland or Ireland any small arm the barrel or barrels whereof are not duly proved and marked as proved, shall within seven days 20 next after the arrival of such small arm in Scotland or Ireland, give notice of such arrival to the proof master of a public proof house in the United Kingdom established by law, and shall within twenty-eight days next after such arrival send the barrel or barrels of such imported small arm to one of such proof 25 houses for proof thereto:

Provided also that every barrel of foreign manufacture having duly and lawfully impressed thereon the due and proper

[Bill 110.]

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A.D. 1910. mark, sign, or character indicative of the due proof thereof at any public proof house established by law in a foreign state, the marks whereof shall be entered in and correspond with the register of foreign proof marks kept at a public proof house or branch proof house established by law in the United Kingdom, 5 shall be exempted from the provisions of this Act: Provided always that if any barrel so exempted shall, on any part thereof, or on any part of any small arm into which it is made up, be stamped or marked with any mark, name, sign, or character indicating or purporting to indicate that such barrel or small arm, 10 or any part thereof respectively, has been manufactured in the United Kingdom, or shall bear the name of any maker or dealer or of any person, partnership, or company carrying on the business of a maker of or dealer in small arms or barrels within the United Kingdom, such barrel shall, for the purpose of this Act, 15 be deemed an unproved barrel.

Offences and penalties.

2. Every act done in contravention of the provisions of this Act shall be an offence against the Act, and every person guilty of an offence against this Act shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding *twenty pounds* for every barrel 20 in connection with which such offence is committed.

Military small arms.

3. This Act shall not apply to any small arm made for the use of His Majesty's forces so long as it is the property of His Majesty, provided that after such small arm shall have ceased to belong to His Majesty the same conditions shall apply as 25 are applicable to such a small arm in England.

Definitions.

4. The expression "small arm" in this Act includes small arms of every description, and whether of present use or of future invention, respectively adapted for the discharge of bullets, shots, or other projectiles, either by means of the 30 explosion, ignition, or other action of gunpowder, gun-cotton, fulminating powder, or other substance, whether of present use or of future invention or application, or by means of the expansion of steam or gas, or by any other means not being merely mechanical means, except air guns as at present manufactured. 35

The expression "barrel" in this Act includes every barrel of every small arm and every breech of every small arm and every part of every small arm which would in the user of the small arm contain all or any part of the charge of the small arm, and every part of the small arm in, from, or through 40

which part in the user of the small arm all or any part of the charge thereof would be exploded or discharged, except any barrel adapted for the discharge of a ball of greater weight than one pound and three-quarters, and also except any barrel of a bore exceeding in every part thereof the diameter of two inches.

5.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Firearms (Scotland and Ireland) Proof Act, 1910. Short title and commencement.

(2) This Act shall come into operation on the *first day of 10 January one thousand nine hundred and eleven.*

Firearms (Scotland and Ireland).

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To regulate the Sale of Firearms in
Scotland and Ireland.

*Presented by Viscount Morpeth,
supported by*

*Mr. Jesse Collings, Sir F. W. Lowe,
Mr. Parkes, Mr. Steel-Maitland, Mr. Newman,
Mr. Watt, and Mr. Middlemore.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
6 April 1910.*

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[Bill 110.]